

What today's DD Act Terms mean

Advocacy: People with disabilities and their families have the support we need to speak up. We tell people what supports and services we want and need.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Section 101 \(B\) – DD Act](#)

Accessibility: Everyone can easily use and understand things.

Things could be a:

- building
- playground
- website
- book
- ways to communicate information
- program or service, etc.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Section 124 \(5\) Assurances \(F\) Program Accessibility](#)

Culture: The things a group of people do and believe. It is usually passed down from one generation to the next. It could include:

- language
- food
- celebrations
- art
- beliefs
- values

Disability Pride is a part of culture. It is about celebrating and being proud of people with disabilities because we are unique.

Our differences are a part of what makes the world interesting. It includes:

- We are accepted and valued.
- Our differences are a natural part of life.
- Valuing our contributions to society (history, art, music, work, etc.)
- We are important, respected and included in the world.
- We love our whole selves.
- We have the tools and the belief to do great things.
- We make decisions about our lives and future.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [DD Act Guidance - Definitions & Key Concepts - Cultural Diversity](#)

Disability: The DD Act says someone with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD) has a chronic disability. Mental, physical, or both

- Occurs before age 22
- Limits some daily activities
- Lifelong or extended support needs

We also include people with all kinds of disabilities in the work. They have such similar experiences, and we can learn so much from one another. This is called cross-disability work.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Sec.102.Definitions \(8\) - DD Act](#)

Diversity: Diversity means that people are different in many ways. They may be different in how they look, things they like, where they live, how they communicate, and what they believe.

It is important and required that our work is representative of all people in Missouri.

We're required to define diversity as:

- race and ethnicity
- if they live small town or big cities
- making sure people of different types of disability are included, etc.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [DD Act Guidance - Definitions & Key Concepts - Cultural Diversity](#)
[Section 204 \(E\) Priorities for Distribution - DD Act](#)

Equity: Equity is when everyone gets what they need to succeed, not just the same things. This is because everyone is different and has different needs.

For example, everyone should receive the same information, but some people may need to receive that same information in a different way. For example,

- Large print
- Braille
- ASL interpretation
- Spanish translation
- Audio format, etc.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [DD Act Guidance - Definitions & Key Concepts - Equity](#)
[Section 204 \(E\) Priorities for Distribution - DD Act](#)

Inclusion: Everyone feels welcome and part of the group. Everyone has the chance to participate and learn.

People with disabilities and their families should have the same opportunities to learn, grow and succeed without being left out.

- Friendships and relationships
- Homes in the community
- Access to activities and employment
- Full access to community resources

A couple examples of Disability Inclusion are:

- Students with disabilities are in classrooms with their non-disabled peers, learning right along with them.
- People with disabilities live in their own home in their community, not in institutions.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Sec.102.Definitions. \(15\) - DD Act](#)

Integration: People with disabilities having the same rights and access to community resources as anyone else.

- neighborhood
- school
- work
- transportation
- recreation

These are the main laws that support integration:

- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Sec.102.Definitions \(17\) - DD Act](#)

Systems Change: Activities that help make laws, policies, programs and services better. People with disabilities and their families share how to make the system better. They tell how to make changes that will:

- Meet their needs best.
- Make the system more efficient.
- Save money.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Sec.203.Definitions and Special Rule \(a\) Definitions \(6\) Systems Change - DD Act](#)

Targeted Disparities: Sometimes programs, services, and policies don't meet everyone's needs. MODDC works on targeted disparities by:

- Focusing on the specific needs of some groups.
- Doing work that is supported by research and data.
- Work that focuses on the causes of the disparities.
- Create change so everyone gets what they want and need.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [DD Act Guidance - Definitions & Key Concepts - Disparity](#)

Transition: A life change or the moving from one environment or experience to another. People with disabilities move through many life changes and experiences. These are just a few examples of transition that people with disabilities experience:

- The experience of moving from high school to a job or college.
- The experience of moving from an institution to living in your own home in your neighborhood.
- The experience of moving from private insurance to Medicaid.
- The experience of moving from your wheelchair to your bed.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Section 101 \(2\) \(D\) \(vi\) - DD Act](#)

Unserved/Underserved: Unserved is a place or group of people that has no access to services. Underserved means a place or group of people that have very little access to services. Racial and ethnic groups can be underserved/underserved, but it can also be:

- People with disabilities who need to use assistive technology.
- People who live in different parts of the state (rural or urban).
- People who live in poverty.
- People who don't speak English well.

If you want to learn more about this, click here: [Sec.102.Definitions \(32\) - DD Act](#)